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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Memorandum of Conversation

687

DATE: June 7, 1954

SUBJECT: Consultation regarding Guatemala

PARTICIPANTS: Ambassador Manuel Tello, of Mexico
Assistant Secretary Henry F. Holland

COPIES TO: ARA - Mr. Woodward; Mr. Pearson; Amb. Pawley
AR - Amb. Dreier; Mr. Jamison; Mr. Sanders
ARA/P - Mr. Wieland; Mr. Herron
MID - Mr. Burrows; Mr. Leddy
Amembassy Guatemala - informally
Amembassy Mexico City - informally

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The Ambassador had with him a copy of a memorandum that Ambassador White had delivered to the Mexican Foreign Office. The Ambassador wanted to raise several questions with me regarding the contents of the memorandum.

He asked the significance in our mind of the term further "substantial shipments" of arms. I said that I thought that this meant shipments of a size sufficient to have a military significance. I pointed out to him that when the Wyoming was examined in Panama we had readily released a case of 22 rifles because they had no military significance.

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He wanted to know whether as regards restrictions on movements of Communist agents it was our view that each Government should take measures within its own limits or whether one State or a group of States should supervise this problem throughout the hemisphere. I replied that as regards the detention and inspection of ships I imagined that it would be expected that the United States would carry the burden of enforcement. However, as regards detention and inspection of airplanes, I felt that each State should take measures within its own limits.

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He asked whether any other means of conveyance were contemplated besides planes and ships. I said that I did not feel so; that we felt that Mexico would abundantly supervise any misuse of its rail connection with Guatemala.

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I handed him a copy of the operative portions of our text of resolution. He read it in my presence and said that it seemed satisfactory. I urged upon him the desirability of trying to maintain secrecy about this whole matter as long as possible.

ARA:HFHolland:dwm